

Remarks

Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action dated September 8, 2004 and the references cited therein. Applicants respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the application.

In the most recent office action, the Examiner has maintained his rejection of claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-14, 16 and 19-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,151,643, hereafter Cheng, already of record, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,260,077, Rangarajan et al., hereafter Rangarajan, also already of record.

In the prior office actions, the Examiner had previously admitted that Cheng does not explicitly teach an *event listener* and *announcing the data change*. In previous responses, applicants amended claim 1 to recite “announcing to the participating application from which the data was originally obtained that the *data has a changed value*” (claim 1, lines 13-14). Similarly, claim 14 had been amended to recite a computer program product comprising “program code for announcing across the information bus to the registered application from which the data was originally obtained that the *data has a changed value*” (claim 14, line 18). Likewise, claim 11 had been amended to recite an apparatus for use with an application retrieving data across an information bus from other applications sharing the information bus, including data notification logic “configured to announce across the information bus to the participating application from which the data element originated that the *data has a changed value*” (claim 11, lines 13-14). Applicants had argued that there is no disclosure or teaching of such functionality within Cheng, and, that in Cheng, the value of the data is not changed, instead, the data is removed in its entirety.

In response, in setting forth the current rejection, the Examiner has alleged that such limitations are still met by the cited references as disclosed in the rejections, although the Examiner has not cited any specific sections to address these limitation and arguments.

Applicants wish to begin emphasize that, in the present invention, the value of the registered data is modified and then retained within the participating application. The notification back to the original data source serves the purpose of notifying the source that the data now exists in a modified or permutation form. There is no

disclosure or teaching of such functionality within Cheng. In Cheng, the value of the data is not changed, instead, the data is removed in its entirety. Specifically, in Cheng, the recovery module 908 of client application 104 announces to service provider computer 102 that a software update is to be undone (deleted). The software update is then removed by the recovery module 908 and the payment module 705 is notified (Cheng, col. 17, lines 58-66). The client application 104, however, *does not announce that the value of the best changed*, as now recited in claims 1, 11, and 14. Cheng only discloses the announcement of an intent to delete data. Accordingly, in light of the previous amendments and arguments, and by the Examiner's own admissions, claims 1, 11, and 14, as well as their respective dependent claims, are believed allowable over Cheng, whether considered singularly or in combination with Rangarajan, or any other reference of record.

Notwithstanding the above traversals, claim 1 has been amended to further recite the limitations of claim 8. Specifically, claim 1 now recites a method comprising "providing descriptive and identifying information about the data" (claim 1, line 15). In the present invention, the nature of the information describing identifying the data is described in the specification (page 28, line 26 through page 29, line 5; page 33, lines 1-15; page 37, lines 24-29). In the present invention, using the public `DataFlavor[] getDataFlavors()` method allows a consumer to consider the type of information being announced as available before requesting a data item. It returns a reference to array of `DataFlavor` objects that describe the formats the producer can provide either in the data item itself, or by way of `Transferable.getTransferData()`. If this method returns null, it means the producer did not specify the `DataFlavors` in announcing this data. There does not appear to be within Cheng any disclosure or teaching of such information and functionality. In light of the foregoing amendments and arguments, and by the Examiner's own admissions, claim 1 is now believed allowable over Cheng, whether considered singularly or in combination with Rangarajan, or any other reference of record. There is no disclosure or teaching of such functionality within Cheng. Claim 8 has been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 4 through 7 include all the limitations of amended claim 1 and are believed allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1, as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations.

Claim 14 has been similarly amended to further recite the limitations of claim 21. Specifically, claim 14 now recites a computer program product comprising "program code for providing descriptive and identifying information about the data" (claim 14, line 15). Claim 21 has been canceled, without prejudice. Again, in light of the foregoing amendments and arguments, and by the Examiner's own admissions, claim 14 is now believed allowable over Cheng, whether considered singularly or in combination with Rangarajan, or any other reference of record, for at least the same reasons as claim 1, as well as on the merits of its own respective limitations. Claims 16 through 20 include all the limitations of amended claim 14 and are similarly believed allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 14, as well as for the merits of their own respective limitations.

Claims 4-5, 7 and 17-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheng in view of Rangarajan, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,356,948, Barnett. Barnett does not compensate for the Examiner's admitted deficiencies in the Cheng reference or the disclosure relied upon in the Rangarajan patent. Accordingly, these claims are believed allowable for the reasons set forth above.

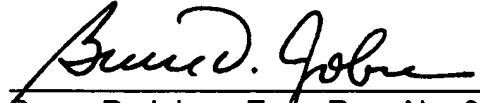
Applicants respectfully reassert any other arguments, remarks and traversals set forth in prior responses to the extent still relevant to the outstanding rejections.

If after considering the above remarks and amendments, the Examiner is still not of the opinion that allowable subject matter is claimed, Applicants respectfully request(s) a telephone interview with the Examiner and his/her respective Supervisory Patent Examiner to resolve any outstanding issues prior to issuance of any further office actions.

Applicants believe the claims are in allowable condition. A notice of allowance for this application is solicited earnestly. If the Examiner has any further questions regarding this amendment, he/she is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the number

listed below. The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any balances under 37 CFR §1.17, and 1.16 to Deposit Account No. DA-12-2158.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: 11/2/04

Bruce D. Jobse, Esq. Reg. No. 33,518
KUDIRKA & JOBSE, LLP
Customer Number 021127
Tel: (617) 367-4600 Fax: (617) 367-4656